

City College News

GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE

VOL.5 NO. 6 FEBRUARY 1988

Student Services review underway

George Brown has an opportunity this year to make its services to students better and more efficient, says Dr. Garry Watson.

The College Registrar, who also became Director of Student Services in an administrative reorganization on Feb. 1, says the structure of the 105-person Department will undergo a complete review in the next few months.

"We're trying to do a better job with what we've got," Watson says. "It's an opportunity to improve client services."

Until February, the Department - with its counselling, placement, athletics, and nursing aid, library, audio visual, and nursing services - has been administratively independent with its own Director, Malcolm Sykes.

Now Sykes has been transferred to the President's Office to work on special projects until his retirement in August, and Student Services has become Watson's responsibility.

The administrative review will result in recommendations about what form the Department should take and what it should include.

In the past year, the school liaison office and support services for the handicapped were transferred out of the Student Services Department into academic divisions.

Assisting Watson in running the multi-campus Department and conducting the review is Human Resources Officer Alison Critchley, who has been seconded to be Associate Director of Student Services.

Critchley worked for several years as the Associate Registrar in a combined Registrar/Student Services Department at Lambton College in Sarnia, Watson says.

Staff in various departments will be consulted in the next few weeks about Student Services, and then a small committee will be formed to consider and draft recommendations for the future Department's structure and a new direction and "mission statement", he says.

"I want to know what the Board wants; I want to know what students want."



Photo: Cindy McLean

George Brown Hospitality student Lino Collevecchio (right) works on his breast of turkey entry with instructors Alan Brown (centre) and Ed Wright in the Taste of Canada competition held on January 30. The hard work paid off when Collevecchio's entry took first prize in the student culinary contest.

Student chefs taste success - 24 times

George Brown College School of Hospitality students sliced, diced, basted and tasted their way to victory in the fifth annual Taste of Canada culinary competition at the end of January.

Sixteen judges from Toronto's top hotels and restaurants awarded 24 of the 49 top awards to George Brown students.

Seven other colleges - from Alberta to Prince Edward Island - divided the rest of the medals in the national student competition.

George Brown won two of the four grand awards - for best special occasion cake and best team effort in the hot food competition - and first prizes for the best use of turkey, best cold fish buffet, best cold meat buffet, best cold poultry buffet, best desserts and best French and Danish pastries.

Students from the Culinary Institute of Canada, based in Charlottetown, P.E.I., took the two other grand awards - for best restaurant platter and best cold hors d'oeuvre.

Other awards were won by students from Algonquin, Fanshawe, Humber and Georgian Colleges and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology from Calgary.

Unlike most other culinary competitions, where dishes are judged on their visual appeal alone, all Taste of Canada entries were judged on taste as well, says School of Hospitality Chairperson Brian Cooper.

After three days of intensive cooking, the entries were put on display at the newly-opened School of Hospitality building on Jan. 30 when about 4,000 people came to view the gourmet delights.

Included for the first time in this year's contest was a hot food category in which students had to come up with a recipe and a hot meal from a "mystery" box of groceries. Students from Humber and George Brown won gold medals in this category.

The competition "gives the students an opportunity to showcase their outstanding achievements to some of the finest chefs in Canada," Cooper says. "It shows the accumulation of years of work and (the students') ability to withstand competitive pressure."

The quality of the competition gets higher every year, Cooper says. Next year student chefs, cooks, bakers and pastry chefs from 22 countries will converge on George Brown in the student world culinary championships, he says.



Comment by Doug Light

Advisory committees are an important link

George Brown's program Advisory Committees have a undeservedly low profile. These volunteer groups of men and women from industry most often meet in the evening after normal College hours. But that profile should not be confused with their importance to the long-term success of the College.

Advisory committees are a vital link to the industries, businesses and institutional communities we serve, and their influence is felt in several key areas.

- The Committees are in a unique position to offer advice on curriculum development. The Advisory Committee to the Retail Management program in the Business Division, chaired by Harry Rosen, has done much to match the course content to the needs of industry and is currently looking at a parallel work experience component in which students would work part-time and study throughout the College year.

- Advisory Committee members also assist the College in placing students for work experience terms and advising program staff about current employment conditions. This information is particularly vital in a rapidly expanding field such as Property Management in our Business Division, where committee members have been particularly active.

- The Committees are also in a good position to evaluate a program's teaching methods and learning resources. The Advisory Committee to the Electrical programs recently pointed out the need to train students on programmable and computerized equipment. George Brown was able to respond to that need and bought new equipment with Ontario Excellence funds.

- Advisory Committees also act as a source of information about industry changes and developments. Such is the case with the Ontario Hostelry Institute, which advises the Hospitality Division, when it encouraged development of a post-diploma program in Italian Cuisine.

The Committees are crucial to the College in helping it meet the needs of our students and our employer community.

College offers four new programs in link with Toronto Labour Council

George Brown is developing closer ties with organized labour in Toronto.

In January the College started offering new part-time programs in co-operation with the Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto.

All programs are being held at workplaces around the city or at the Metro Labour Education and Skills Training Centre at 954 King St. W. - but the connection with George Brown is important.

"Our link to George Brown is very important for workers to feel part of the public education system," says Brenda Wall, Senior Co-ordinator at the Centre.

About 675 students a year are expected to enrol in the programs.

There are four programs involved: Skills Training, which helps laid-off and unemployed workers identify their skills in preparation for re-entering the work force or retraining; Adult Basic Education, which helps workers improve their skills in mathematics and English and prepares them for future training; English in the Workplace/English as a Second Language (EWP/ESL) which helps workers upgrade their language skills; and the Labour Studies Certificate program, in which students must complete eight out of 24 possible courses dealing with topics such as labour history, racism, and occupational stress.

The College, through the Community

Outreach Department, provides a number of services including student registration and certification, program and curriculum development, design and evaluation, financial administration, and publicity.

According to the agreement between the College and the Labour Council, the Centre's staff of 43 can take part in George Brown staff development workshops and students in the programs can use College facilities, such as the libraries and recreational facilities.

Maureen Hynes, a Multicultural Consultant with the Community Outreach Department, administers the College side of the agreement and sits as a member of the Centre's Advisory Committee.

The Labour Council is the co-ordinating body for the 400 labour union locals in Metro affiliated with the Canadian Labour Congress. Founded in 1871, it provides some co-operative housing, social service projects, strike support and educational programs for its 180,000 members.

"These programs broaden the accessibility of College-accredited programs to people who might not normally gain access to them," Hynes says.

Wall agrees. She says she hopes this is just the start. "We hope they (students in these programs) link up with the College in other ways and take other programs to upgrade their skills," she says.

Computer alumni form association

George Brown's computer whizzes have joined the growing number of College graduates who've banded together in an alumni association.

The Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Alumni Association members meet to discuss networking, the job market, new developments in the field, and the relevancy of College programs to the demands of the workplace.

"The whole purpose [of the alumni association] is to get [former] electronic data processing students together and to keep in touch," says Association Secretary Greg Elliott.

It was set up in the fall of 1987 by six George Brown EDP graduates who have already issued a newsletter and organized a Christmas party after holding an inaugural meeting where the executive was elected.

To help the fledgling group get started, George Brown has covered the

cost of mailing out about 300 copies of the newsletter and notices of the meetings. "The College has been generous and it's been appreciated," Elliott says.

Faculty have had a hand in getting it going, as well. Former EDP instructor Chris Greaves, and Business Administration instructor Dick Sash spoke to 40 people at the group's meetings. Marketing and Physical Distribution instructor Vitas Pacas helped get the group off the ground, Elliott says.

Membership is open to graduates of the Computer Programming and Systems Analyst programs, and to former Business students who have an EDP concentration, Elliott says. The Association may expand membership to include alumni of CAD/CAM and digital equipment programs, Elliott says.

For information call Elliott at 626-3961 or 494-8600.



Photo: Andrew Orlowski

TAKING A FLYING LEAP - Gillian Mangin was the guest artist when George Brown's School of Dance's Youth Ensemble made its premiere appearance at the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO) Conference in mid-February. Mangin, who is an alumna of the School's Junior and Senior programs, is on her way to New York where she will apprentice with the Joffrey Ballet. The Youth Ensemble, a group of 16 dancers aged 12 to 18 years old, performed an hour-long program with a group of young musicians from Seneca College's Suzuki program at the Conference's gala dinner. School of Dance Administrator John Price was the Conference's cultural Co-ordinator.

Events

Feb. 18 - Brown bag lunchtime seminar on RSP, St. James Campus, Room 265. Runs noon - 1 p.m. and 1 - 2 p.m. Open to all staff. Pre-registration required. Call Maria De Notaris (ext. 3293) for details.

Feb. 19 - Men's Varsity Basketball, Humber vs. George Brown, St. James gym. Starting time is 7 p.m.

Feb. 22 - 26 - Intramural Tri-campus Co-ed Handball and Blind Volleyball Championships. Check gym offices for game times and locations.

Feb. 23 - Career night for Legal Office Administration programs, 6 to 8 p.m., St. James, Room 185.

Feb. 24 - Men's and Women's Varsity Basketball, doubleheader, Mohawk vs. George Brown, St. James gym. Starting time is 6 p.m. for the women and 8 p.m. for the men.

Feb. 25 - "Is your back tired or sore?" lunchtime brown bag seminar by chiropractor Dr. Myron Dawydak, St. James Campus, Room 449. Runs 12:15 - 1 p.m. Open to all staff. Pre-registration required. Call Maria De Notaris (ext. 3293) for details.

- President's Advisory Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Boardroom, 500 MacPherson.

Feb. 26 - "Quality customer service" seminar, Casa Loma Campus, Room B316. Runs 1 - 4 p.m. Open to all Support Staff, but preference will be given to JET program participants. Call Maria De Notaris (ext. 3293) for details.

Feb. 29 - Registration begins for Men's, Women's and Co-ed, three-on-three Intramural Basketball and Volleyball. Register in any gym office. Call Alex Barbier (ext. 3280) for details.

March 1 - Board of Governors meeting. Call Pat Smith (ext. 2211) for time, location and information.

- Provincial Enrolment Audit of Post-Secondary students.

March 7 - Start of Reading Week for Post Secondary students.

March 11 - End of Reading Week for Post Secondary students.

March 17 - College Council meeting, 9 a.m., Boardroom, 500 MacPherson.

Winter enrolment down 2 per cent

The number of new post secondary students who enrolled in programs starting in January and February fell two per cent from last year.

By mid-February, 357 students had enrolled in programs ranging from chef training to accounting. The nursing program, with 170 students, and the Pre-Health Program, with more than 70 students, accounted for about two thirds of the new students. Several programs offered by the Technology and Business Divisions were cancelled because of low student interest.

Last year George Brown enrolled 365 by the same time.

While the number of seats available in programs increased from 533 in 1987 to 632, the number of applicants fell 10 per cent to 919, according to College Registrar Garry Watson.

This is the first year that George Brown's annual nursing class of 360 students was divided evenly between a fall and winter intake, Watson says.

George Brown first offered a large number of January and February programs in 1984 when 500 students enrolled.

Lawyer and educator among new Governors

A corporate lawyer, ethnic educator, and personnel manager have joined George Brown's Board of Governors.

The Council of Regents has appointed: Sonja Gundersen, General Counsel with Apple Canada Inc.; Tanis Onyschuk, an educator involved in the Heritage Language Program with the Metro Separate School Board; and Ross Rigney, National Manager Personnel Selection Placement and Training, Sears Canada Inc.

Gundersen, newly elected faculty representative Eric Lord and administrative Board member James Graham have also been named to the Board's Finance Sub-committee. Onyschuk and student Board member Barry Wood have taken their place on the Education Sub-committee. Rigney and support staff representative Dino Nassivera are members of the Property Sub-committee.

The Council of Regents is an advisory group to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities that appoints members to community college Boards of Governors.

Profiles of each of the three new community members will be featured in future editions of *City College News*.

Names in the News



Lawyer **Victoria Vidal-Ribas**, Senior Legal Counsel for the Ministry of Skills Development, discussed the legal issues that concern Futures program counsellors as part of a professional development day in mid-January. Counsellors must weigh the issues of confidentiality and legal liability in their work, she told 25 counsellors from several Colleges.

The Human Resources Department has told us of the following staff changes:

New faculty include: **Maria Brand** and **Tania Das Gupta** in Community Services at Nightingale and **Douglas Jull** in the Academic Division at Kensington.

New support staff include: **Nicole Alexander** in Student Services at MacPherson, **Beverly Ford** in Computer Services at Casa Loma, **Patricia Guenette** in Finance at MacPherson, **Wayne Kyryluk** in Computer Services at Casa Loma, **Robert Rocca** in Admissions at Casa Loma, **Catherine Sutherland** in Community Services at Nightingale and **Sheryl Wallis** in Health Sciences at Nightingale.

Internal transfers include: **Margaret Barron**, who has transferred from St. James to Casa Loma in the Physical Resources Department; **Marg Hinchcliffe**, who has left a position with the Admissions Department at St. James for one in Student Services at MacPherson; **Wendy Jones**, who has left a position in Performing Arts at St. James for one in Community Services at Nightingale; **Nancy Nickle**, who has taken a job in Health Sciences at Casa Loma; **Evon Soong**, who has left a position in Health Sciences at Nightingale for one in the same Division at Casa Loma; and **William Wilson**, who has left a job in Language Training at Kensington for one in Research and Planning at MacPherson.

Those retiring include: **Irma Bain** of Library Services at Nightingale, **Eleanor Murray** of the Caretaking Department at Casa Loma, **Gerardo Pecchia** of the Building Staff at Casa Loma and **Annie Rannio** of Campus Management at St. James.

Leaving the College are: **Anita Alfred**, **Robert Alcorn**, **Phyllis Cutler**, **Aurelia Di Santo**, **Jennifer Evans**, **Paul Horan**, **Yvette Jones**, **Jane Kurtz**, **Robert McCollum**, and **Joanne Park**.

JONES AVENUE REUNION - The retirement party for Business Chairperson Ed Dunn in early February was also something of a reunion for staff and retirees who originally worked at the long-closed Jones Avenue campus in the 1960s. Joining Ed and his wife Ann (both sitting) for the event at Plumer's were (standing from left): Bette Macintosh, Business and Graphic Arts Dean Jim Ross, Edna Wilson, Norm Carter (see story on this page), Ann McIntyre, Florence Marks, Cecilia Ratelle, current Business Chairperson Archie McDonald, and Jerry Villeneuve. Dunn was presented with a stereo colour television, an engraved brass school bell, and four-foot-tall pink wooden waiter. About 100 people attended the dinner.

A scholarship has been established in the name of **Norm Carter**, the Printing Services Manager who retired recently after a career that spanned three decades. The contributions of friends and colleagues to the scholarship fund will be matched by Carter himself. The scholarship will go to a financially needy student or students. Staff who want to contribute should call Dudley Campbell (ext. 2281).

Eleanor Ross, President of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario, spoke to graduates at George Brown's winter Convocation in late January. More than 200 graduates from nursing, business, technology and hospitality programs were granted diplomas.

Printing instructor **Frank Williamson** is developing a printing training centre in Jakarta, Indonesia in a project funded by the Asia Development Bank. His colleague, **Bill Kidd**, also spent some time overseas recently. He taught 20 technicians in Somalia how to maintain printing equipment in a UNESCO project.

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is a monthly publication of the Continuing Education and Marketing Division of George Brown College at 258 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, Ontario, M5A 1N1. (416) 967-1212, ext. 3243. Editors: Kadi Kaljuste, Neil McGillivray. Writers: Neil McGillivray, Cindy Kleiman.